

VIRGINIA ROANOKE RIVER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 30, 2009
CLARKSVILLE
MINUTES

Present:

VRRBAC Members:

Senator Frank Ruff; Mike McEvoy; Tim Pace; Mark Wagner; Walter Coles; John Feild; John Lindsey; Billy Martin; Read Charlton

Others:

Scott Kudlas, VA DEQ; Greg Anderson, VA DEQ; Tammy Stephenson, VA DEQ; Les Foldesi, VA VDH; John Gannon, VA Tech, Geosciences; Katherine Mull, Dan River Basin Association; Barry Dunkley, City of Danville; Lindley Butler, NC - Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission; Dave Nicoll; Charles Lee; Bill Lindenmuth, LGA; Vernon Wilson, LGA; Lou Zarelli, Clarksville; Mike McEvoy, VRRBAC and RRBBC; Cole Poindexter, Staunton River Watch; Katie Whitehead, Dan River Basin Association; Bill Mocarsly; Carl Espy, Town of Halifax, Dan River Basin Association; Barry Carter, Occoneechee Tribe of VA; Randy Arno, UVA's Cooper Center; Bob Dowd, West Piedmont Planning District Commission

Chairman Mike McEvoy called the meeting to order and recognized members and guests.

Senator Ruff asked for the floor to recognize Greg Anderson, who has been instrumental in keeping this Committee going from its inception. Senator Ruff said Greg has provided extraordinary support to all that have worked on this Committee over the last six years. He added that he did not think there could have been a better person representing DEQ, providing liaison with VRRBAC members. His successor will have tremendous shoes to fill. Senator Ruff then made a formal motion to recognize Greg Anderson for his contribution to VRRBAC. There was a second to the motion, and all members agreed. Chairman McEvoy then presented Greg with a plaque on behalf of the VRRBAC and made the following statement:

"The members of the VA Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee would like to recognize and express their sincere appreciation to Greg Anderson for his years of service, inspiration, and dedication to the Committee as Staff Liaison. His efforts sustained the Committee during its formative years and helped to establish community collaboration for protection of the Roanoke River and its tributaries. Thank you."

Greg responded with the following statement:

"Thank you very much. I would like to thank you all, too. I appreciate all the kind words you have said to me at the last couple meetings and I would just like to say to you all that any work I have done for the Committee has been because you guys have inspired me to do it. All of you work out in your communities and you all do this on a volunteer basis for the Basin as well as your individual communities. You have really defined to me what

community involvement and community leadership are all about and I thank you for that. It has really left a impression on me. I would have to say that this has been the most rewarding thing I have ever done in my career, which is just about 30 years now, so I appreciate that. Also I would like to recognize, many of them are not here today, but during this time period, all the people, all the local governments, all the organizations who have helped me set up these meetings. In 6 ½ years, I've never been turned down for a meeting location, and I have never been turned down for a presentation. There have been delays at times, but everybody has stepped forward and helped us out, and I think it goes a long ways to say what they think of this Committee. We have had a lot of good speakers. I could not be happier about the two people that are gonna be leading the charge now – Scott Kudlas has done more to help me with this Committee than anybody else at DEQ. I know he has been to at least six functions that we have had. He works out of Richmond, and I know he is close to top management at DEQ. I think that is a very positive thing for this Committee. I also have known Tammy Stephenson for almost 20 years now and I know what a hard worker she is. We have spent a lot of time together over the last month, transitioning things for this Committee. I know she is going to do a fine job for you. The last thing I would like to say is, I am going to be around still and will help them whenever they need me. If you guys ever need me, you know how to get in touch with me; I am always available for you. Thanks again."

Chairman McEvoy reported that the minutes for the February meeting are not available.

Chairman McEvoy introduced John Gannon. John P. Gannon (JP) is originally from southern New Jersey and received a Bachelor's degree in Physics from The College of New Jersey in Ewing, NJ in 2007. He now resides in Blacksburg, VA where he is a graduate student in the geosciences department at Virginia Tech. JP is working towards a Masters degree in physical Hydrogeology. His project involves characterizing the hydrogeology of the Coles Hill area in Pittsylvania County, VA.

Mr. Gannon's presentation on "Hydrogeology at Coles Hill" is part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Chairman McEvoy introduced Leslie P. Foldesi, M.S., CHP. Mr. Foldesi has a MS in Biology and is certified as a Health Physicist with the American Board of Health Physics. I have been employed with the Virginia Department of Health since 1985 in the Radiological Health Program and served as the Director for 21 years.

Mr. Foldesi's presentation on "Radiation, Water Standards, and Uranium Mining/Milling" is part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Chairman McEvoy introduced the last speaker, Katherine Mull. Ms. Mull is the Executive Director of Dan River Basin Association and has worked on regional water issues for the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Fairfax County and as a planning commissioner. As a member of the board of directors of national and state organizations, she has worked on river basin conservation and public policy, including coal mining. As a management consultant, her experience includes financial systems for the U.S. Navy,

business and government consulting, and market research and planning for the U.S. Department of Energy. Ms. Mull holds an MBA from the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia and a BS from the State University of New York at Albany.

Ms. Mull's presentation on "Uranium Mining for Virginia: Questions and Concerns for the Roanoke River Basin" is part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Following the presentations, Chairman McEvoy asked the DEQ staff to try to get someone from the VA Commission on Coal and Energy subcommittee on Uranium Mining speak to VRRBAC and/or RRBBC soon.

Chairman McEvoy gave the VRRBAC an update on the Bi-State Commission meeting held March 27. He thanked members for attending the historic meeting held in Clarksville. He added that it was a positive meeting, with representatives from both states having the opportunity meet, get acquainted, and hear about some issues relevant to the Roanoke River Basin. There were three topics at the meeting: Jon Barlow, Roxboro, NC City Manager - Status of proposed Dan River intake in Milton, NC; Tony Young, P.E., Water Control Manager, USACE - Kerr Lake Water Allocation - Current Status and Requests; Tom Fransen, NC DENR - Kerr Lake Regional Water System – Current IBT (Interbasin Transfer) Certification Status.

Chairman McEvoy added that there are a number of organizational issues that will be considered at the next few meetings, such as By-Laws, guidelines, committee establishment and membership, etc. An ad hoc committee to develop draft protocol for water allocation was formed. The next By-State Commission meeting will be June 12 in Henderson, NC. Notices will go out to the entire distribution list.

There was a suggestion that the VRRBAC meet more frequently than they had in the past. There was a request that the VRRBAC hold a meeting soon after the June 12 Bi-State Commission meeting so VRRBAC members can get familiar with the topics and assist with guidance and input, as the VRRBAC is tasked with doing for the Bi-State Commission. DEQ staff will poll members for the most convenient date in the later part of June, with the meeting to be held in the upper part of the Basin.

Chairman McEvoy reported that Evelyn Janney was not able to make today's meeting because of a conflict, but she did want me to let everyone know that her husband is doing better.

Chairman McEvoy informed the group that there is a re-licensing meeting tonight at the Franklin County High School on AEP's re-licensing of the Smith Mountain Lake Project at 7:00 p.m.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.